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COLONEL WILLIAM BALL

OF

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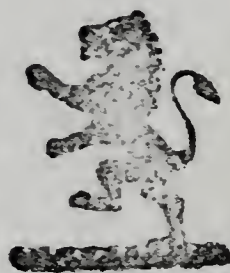
THE GREAT-GRANDFATHER ✓

OF

WASHINGTON

By

EARL L. W. HECK



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CONTENTS.

I. ANCESTRY

II. THE

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PREFACE

CONTENTS.

I. ANCESTRY.

II. THE DESCENDANTS OF COLONEL BALL.

III. WILLIAM BALL IN VIRGINIA.

BIBLIOGRAPHY.

PREFACE.

As the two-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Washington draws near, there has been a noticeable revival of interest in the Colonial history of America, and the beginning of the nation. Mary Ball, the mother of Washington, has shared the praise of her illustrious son; historians have been at work for nearly two centuries endeavouring to trace the English ancestry of the Virginia Balls. The family, originating at the time of the Norman Conquest, had numerous branches in practically every county in England by the sixteenth century, and it is not surprising, therefore, to find the problem of determining the specific branch from which Mary Ball is descended, a most perplexing one.

An effort has been made in the present work to trace the parentage of Colonel William Ball on the basis of heraldry. That he was one of a family of four or five brothers who came to America between 1619 and 1650 seems highly probable, and there is much evidence that he was born in Virginia and went to England at an early age, to return finally to America about 1650 and to settle permanently in Lancaster County, Virginia.

I have made use of the Virginia Colonial records and have found much valuable information relative to the life of Colonel Ball in the William and Mary College Quarterly and the Virginia Magazine of History and Biography. Hayden's "Virginia Genealogies" contains a wealth of interesting material on the Ball family never published elsewhere.

I am very much indebted to the Superintendent of the Reading Room and the Keeper of Manuscripts of the British Museum, who have placed valuable material before me. I must also thank the rector of the Church of St. Helen, Bishopsgate, London, for permission to consult the Church records. Thanks are also due to the Librarian of the Record Office, Guildhall, for opportunity of consulting the files contained therein.

E.L.W.H.

Richmond, Surrey.

January, 1928.

COLONEL WILLIAM BALL OF VIRGINIA. THE GREAT-GRANDFATHER OF WASHINGTON.

I. ANCESTRY.

THE surname Ball, according to the best authorities¹ dates from Norman times and is a shortened form of Baldwin, which family were for many generations Counts of Flanders. In fact, William the Conqueror married Matilda, the daughter of Baldwin VIII, and many of his immediate family came to England. After the Conquest the name appears to have been shortened and was spelt various ways as Balle, Bale, Baell. Bradley points out that Baell corresponds to the Anglo-Saxon Bael, meaning funeral pile; while Ball is only a partial equivalent of the Saxon Bald, meaning bold.² Wright gives a plausible explanation that the name Baldwin may mean one who is bold enough in battle to win.³ Both Camden and Bardsley and other writers upon the subject agree that the name is not derived from "bald."

From the beginning of the sixteenth century the name had assumed its present-day spelling and the family was widely scattered over England; and, in fact, there are few county records from 1500 onward which do not mention

1. Camden and Bardsley.

2. Bradley, L. A., History of the Ball family, N.Y., 1916.
p. 15.

3. Wright, W. B., Ball Family Records, York, 1908, p. 1.

COLONEL WILLIAM BALL.

the name, which seems, however, to be more prominent in Kent, Middlesex and Northamptonshire. Mr. H. B. Guppy, writing on the homes of English surnames, is of the opinion that the Ball family found in the West of England in the Counties of Lancashire, Stafford, Warwick, and Gloucester, is distinct from the branch on the east side in Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex.¹

There have been few Colonial American pedigrees more difficult to trace in England than that of Colonel William Ball, the great-grandfather of Washington on his mother's side. And there are few other instances where such a long and persistent effort has been made to determine the English branch without much success. As early as 1745 Joseph Ball, a grandson of Colonel Ball, came to England and spent a number of years trying to determine the precise branch.² Unfortunately Colonel Ball has given us very little or no contemporary information regarding his family and few of his original family documents are extant which might give a clue to the name of his parents. Upon examining the parish and county records of the kingdom one finds between the years 1610—1625 over twenty persons bearing the same name to have been born.

Fortunately, however, Colonel Ball did bring with him to Virginia an illuminated parchment on which was engraved the Coat of Arms of his family. This parchment has long been in the possession of a branch of the Ball family in Lancaster County, Virginia. Some years ago, a member of that family, being in London, had a copy of the Coat of Arms of the Northamptonshire Balls prepared from the original in the office

1. London, 1890.

2. Hayden, Horace E., *Virginia Genealogies*, 1891, pp. 47-52.

ANCESTRY

of the College of Heralds. Upon returning to Virginia he found that the two matched in every detail. It is assigned in the College of Heralds to the Reverend Richard Ball, D.D., son of Lawrence Ball, of Northamptonshire, and was granted December 22nd, 1613, by Sir W. M. Segar Garter.

Sometime before, however, Lossing had described a similar Coat of Arms in the possession of a direct descendant of Colonel Ball, "a rampant lion holding a globe in his paw, a helmet and shield, a vizor strong, and a coat of mail and other emblems of strength and courage."¹ A quotation from Ovid is taken as the motto, "Coelum qui Tueri." On the back of this parchment is written the following inscription dated 1779: "Colonel William Ball, who came from England with his family about the year 1650 and settled at the mouth of the Corotoman River in Lancaster Co., Virginia, and died in 1669, leaving two sons, William and Joseph, and one daughter, Hannah, who married Daniel Fox. William left eight sons (and one daughter), five of whom have now male issue. Joseph's male issue is extinct. General George Washington is his grandson by his youngest daughter, Mary."² In 1891 this parchment was owned by J. Flexner Ball, of Ditchley.³ One of the most curious things about the above inscription is that it says Colonel Ball died in 1669, whereas we have every reason to believe that he lived until 1680.

1. Lossing, B. J., Mount Vernon and its associations, N.Y., 1859, p. 19.

2. Ibid.

3. Hayden, H. E., Va. Gen., p. 49.

COLONEL WILLIAM BALL.

The description of the Ball Coat of Arms agrees in main with the one in the College of Heralds for the Northamptonshire branch, except for the fact that the crests are a bit different, for in the latter the helmet and shield are lacking. Burke mentions fifteen different armorial bearings as being conferred on as many families by the name of Ball throughout England. To the Northamptonshire branch for 1613 he ascribes, "Argent a lion pass. sa. on a chief of the second three mullets of the first. Crest out of clouds ppr. a demi lion ramp. sa. powdered with estoiles ar. holding a globe or."¹ Inasmuch as Burke mentions nothing that agrees precisely with Lossing's descriptions, and because the two are similar, except in a few minor details, we infer that the Lancaster County Arms mentioned by Wright were the original, and the one, mentioned by Lossing and belonging to a direct descendant of Colonel William Ball, is a slight modification of the original.

On the other hand, Hayden relates that Lossing repeated the description originally given by Bishop Meade, who knew nothing of heraldry and gave a distorted notion regarding it.² Such criticism might lead one to infer that there was only one Coat of Arms among the Balls of Virginia.

Yet, as a matter of fact, there are other reasons why it seems highly probable that two different crests did exist in Virginia, and that one represented the original as possessed by the Rev.

1. Burke, The General Armory, London, 1884, p 44. Add. MSS 12,225 fo. 7.

2. Hayden, H. E., Va. Gen. p. 50.

ANCESTRY.

Richard Ball, while the other was intentionally altered so as to represent a different branch.

Besides William, five other men bearing the same surname came to America prior to 1650.

A Robert Ball was on the Eastern Shore in 1623,¹ Richard Ball came to America in the "George" in 1619.² Another Richard Ball is mentioned as living in Elizabeth City, Va., in 1627, and was probably the same as the one mentioned above. Still another Richard Ball came in the transport "Assurance" in 1635³ to Virginia. But inasmuch as the name Virginia was then often used to denote the whole of British North America, he or one of the other Richard Balls hitherto mentioned may have been the Richard Ball who was at Salisbury, Wells, and Dorchester, Mass. Bradley, who writes mainly of the New Haven branch of the Balls, states that Alling and William Ball came over with the Rev. Mr. Davenport and settled in New Haven, their names first appearing in the records of that town in 1643. William is known to have died prior to 1650 and is not to be confused with Colonel William Ball. There has been, it appears, a tradition of long standing in the family of Alling Ball that originally three brothers came to America, not all at once, but at different intervals, and that two of them settled in Virginia.

To support this tradition, some years after the death of Washington, one of the New Haven

1. Ibid.

2. Ibid.

3. Hotten, J. C., *Emigrants to America*, London, 1874, p. 113.

COLONEL WILLIAM BALL

Balls produced a Coat of Arms of Alling Ball to show that he was the third cousin of the great Virginian.¹ Curiously enough this Coat of Arms corresponded with that of the Northamptonshire Balls, but bearing for its motto, "Semper Caveto."²

Hayden had long entertained the opinion that Colonel Ball was born in Virginia and was the son of Richard Ball, of Elizabeth City. In the light of the knowledge derived from the Connecticut branch, he later is of the opinion that Colonel William was the youngest brother of a family of five who came to America. Of these, Richard, the eldest, and William came to Virginia, and John, Francis, and Alling went to New England.³ This same genealogist, with no small degree of plausibility, is of the opinion that the name of Colonel William Ball's father was Richard, because both his eldest brother and son bear that name.

In the light of all this evidence it seems very highly probable that the Rev. Richard Ball, Vicar of St. Helen's, Bishopsgate, was the father of Richard and William Ball of Virginia and Alling Ball of Connecticut. The existence of three different Coats of Arms is especially favourable to this view, for it would be entirely consistent with the rules of heraldry that Richard being the eldest son should take the Arms of his father; that the second son Alling should change the motto, and that William, the youngest son, should add a different crest from that of the other two.

1. Hayden, H. E., Va. Gen. pp. 50-52.
2. Bradley, L. A., Hist. of the Ball Family.
3. Hayden, p. 49.

ANCESTRY

In the Visitation of London, 1633 and 1634, and of Surrey in 1662, the pedigree of Nicholas Ball, of St. Michealy, Crooked Lane, London, the son of "Richard Ball, of Northampton, and Elizabeth, daughter of William Young, of London, descended out of Stafford," is given with a Coat of Arms similar to the one already described, with the exception that the lion in the crest is holding a branch of a flower instead of a globe of gold.¹ We know, from an entry for January 6th, 1616, in the Registers² of St. Helen's, Bishopsgate, that Elizabeth was the name of the Rev. Richard's wife. There is the possibility that Nicholas was another son who remained in London.

Wright is of the opinion that one of Colonel Ball's elder brothers was John Ball of Kent, who made a name for himself on account of his piety, and who later won the respect and confidence of Fuller, a writer and preacher of Northampton.

Relative to the life and career of the Reverend Richard Ball, we receive the following information gathered from the records of St. Helen's, Bishopsgate.³

"Richard Ball was educated at Magdalen College, Oxford, where he took the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1590, and of Master in 1594. Upon the settlement of Gresham College (1596), Mr. Ball and Mr. Caleb Willis were recommended by the University of Oxford, for one of

1. Harleian MSS. 1,444. fo. 35 b; 1,476 fo. 105, Add. MSS. 553 p. 112.

2. Edited by W. B. Bannerman, London, 1904, p. 16.

3. Cox, John Edmund, "The Annals of St. Helen's, Bishopsgate," London, 1876, pp. 314-15.

COLONEL WILLIAM BALL

them to be chosen to be the first Professor of Rhetoric on that foundation. Mr. Willis was chosen, but being in a bad state of health, by leave of the Gresham Committee, he appointed Mr. Ball to read for him, who was afterwards chosen to be his successor. In 1603 he became Vicar of St. Helen's Church, where he established a lectureship in 1606. Upon January 14th, 1613, he resigned his Professorship, and about the same time he was succeeded in the Vicarage of St. Helen's by Mr. Thomas Downing. He must have been about forty years of age, but whether he died, or had some other preferment that occasioned his removal, is uncertain."

It will be noticed that Dr. Ball left St. Helen's the year he received his Coat of Arms. There is a possibility he left London for Northampton, or, inasmuch as he was still comparatively a young man, he may have been the Richard Ball who was in Elizabeth City, Virginia, as early as 1623. for we know that Ministers of the Church of England went early to that American Colony. Hayden earlier concurs to the opinion that Richard Ball, of Virginia, was the father rather than the eldest brother of Colonel William Ball. We find in the St. Helen's Register that a daughter, Rebecca, was born to Richard Ball, "Parson of St. Helen's and Elizabeth his wife," in 1616 and in 1631. "Mr. Ball" received the sum of £195 15s. 9d. from St. Helen's. The Rev. Dr. Cox is of the opinion that no other than the Rev. Richard is meant by "Mr. Ball." We find, however, upon inspecting this itemized bill that thirty-six pounds were for travelling

1. Ibid, p. 223.

ANCESTRY

and other sundry expenses. Should the Rev. Richard Ball have been recalled from Virginia to St. Helen's, we should expect that his expenses would have been something near that sum.

We cannot as yet give a final judgment upon this much debated question, but the data on hand up to the present day greatly favour the opinion that Colonel William Ball, the ancestor of Washington, was a younger son of the Reverend Richard Ball, of St. Helen's, Bishopsgate, London, and is of the Northamptonshire branch of this widely-scattered English family.

II. COLONEL BALL OF VIRGINIA.

Most writers follow Hayden in saying that Colonel Ball was born about 1740. I find nothing in favor of his being older and we can only infer that he was educated in or about London. That he received from them a small amount of education is clear from the fact that his ordinary knowledge is the principles of Common Law, which he interpreted for the British colonists in Virginia. Hayden says that on the basis of a letter written by a member of the Ball family, John Ball was born in 1740.

II. COLONEL BALL IN VIRGINIA.

At about the time of the Revolution, a barrister at law, John Ball, was living in London. He was a member of the House of Commons and was a friend of Thomas Jefferson. He was a member of the House of Commons and was a friend of Thomas Jefferson. He was a member of the House of Commons and was a friend of Thomas Jefferson.

Mr. W. H. Wright, who has made a careful history of the life of Colonel Ball, says that he was a member of the House of Commons and was a friend of Thomas Jefferson. He was a member of the House of Commons and was a friend of Thomas Jefferson. He was a member of the House of Commons and was a friend of Thomas Jefferson.

II. COLONEL BALL IN VIRGINIA.

Most writers follow Hayden in saying that Colonel Ball was born about 1615. Practically nothing is known of his early life, and we can only infer that he was educated in or about London. That he studied law there is a small amount of evidence, as later he showed more than ordinary knowledge in the principles of Common Law, which he interpreted for his fellow colonists in Virginia. Hayden asserts, on the basis of a letter written by a member of the Ball family, that Colonel Ball was married July 2nd, 1638, in London to Miss Hannah Atherall or Atherold, the daughter of Thomas Atherold, a barrister-at-law, who was living at Gray's Inn during 1610-11. He appears to have been the son of Thomas Atherold, of Burgh, Suffolk, and was born about 1590; his mother was Mary Vessey. Hannah Atherold's mother was Mary Harvey, a daughter of John Harvey, of London.'

Mr. W. B. Wright, who has made a careful inquiry into the antecedents of Colonel William Ball, asserts that he was spoken of in the "Cheshire Visitation" as a soldier under Fairfax. Wright also thinks there is much evidence that William Ball served in the Royal Army and to have taken part in the Civil Wars, remaining true to the royal standards and serving faithfully under the banners of the ill-fated Charles. He is commonly regarded to have been present at the battles of Naseby and Marston Moor. By the defeat of the Royal Army, Colonel Ball lost the greater part of his estates, which were by no means inconsiderable. In company with other royalists he fled to Virginia, the most loyal of the king's possessions,

1. Foster's Collectanea.

COLONEL WILLIAM BALL

and the last to surrender to Cromwell's authority. Ball probably left England soon after the death of Charles I., arriving in Virginia about the year 1650.

There is much truth in Hayden's supposition that Colonel Ball had an elder brother in Virginia before his arrival. He appears not to have taken a land grant at first, nor does his name figure in records of that colony until eight years after his supposed arrival. We might infer from this that he and his family lived with relatives waiting for the Stuarts to be restored to power in England; and his first plans on coming to Virginia may have been to remain there only so long as the troubled conditions existed in the Mother Country.

There is some evidence, however, that he spent these years operating a vessel between England and Virginia. He first appears in the Colonial records as a "Merchant."¹ On December 7th, 1658, he was made executor of the estate of John Edwards, which gave Ball the power to sell the Edwards' estate, his horses, cattle, and negroes; and it made provision that Colonel Ball should receive a share in the ship "Susan" and to make returns to Spencer Pigott, of Duke's Place, London.²

The culture of tobacco had by 1655 become an important industry of Virginia, and was the chief, if not the only source of income to the colonists. By 1650 Augustine Herrman, of New Amsterdam, and George Hack, of Virginia, had built up a large trade in tobacco between the Colony and London. It is, therefore, quite probable that William Ball became a tobacco

1. Hayden, Va. Gen., p. 49.

2. Virginia Mag. Hist. and Biog. Vol. V. p. 259.

IN VIRGINIA.

merchant, carrying the produce to England and disposing of it there.

If Ball first came to Virginia with the intention of remaining only so long as the Protectorate existed in England, he soon decided to cast his lot with the fortunes of the New World. After 1660 he took an active part in the religious, political and social life of Virginia. In 1660 he was a member of a court to make a treaty with the Indians and to establish a boundary for the occupation of land by the whitemen.¹ In 1661 his name still appears in the Northumberland County Records as a merchant. Later he became a planter, and on January 18th, 1663, received a grant of land on Narrow Neck Creek in Lancaster County.² Four years later he appears in the records as Major Ball, and together with Thomas Chetwood received a grant of sixteen hundred acres in the County of Rappahannock on the north side of the river of the same name. A few months later he acquired three hundred additional acres of rich bottom land adjoining the estate of Daniel Fox, whose friendship Ball appears to have cultivated, and who later became the Colonel's son-in-law, marrying his only daughter, Hannah.

It was on the Lancaster County estate, however, where Colonel Ball built the beautiful Georgian mansion which later was to become famous. He named it "Millenbeck," probably after some place in Warwickshire or Northamptonshire. The estate was held for four successive generations by William Balls, and with "Epping Forest," the home of Mary Ball (Washington),

1. Wm. and Mary Col. Quart. Vol. IV, p. 178.

2. Hayden, Va. Gen., p. 51.

COLONEL WILLIAM BALL

played a prominent part in the annals of Virginian history.

It seems highly probable, moreover, that Ball remained something of a merchant after he became a Lancaster County planter, and he undoubtedly made frequent trips back to London, for in those days it was a common practice for one planter, skilled in business usages, to see about the marketing of his own as well as the tobacco of two or three of his closest neighbours or best friends.

From 1672 Ball took an active part in the administration work of his adopted county and colony. He first received the title of "Colonel" in that year. Hayden is of the opinion that he was the County Lieutenant of Lancaster for that year, inasmuch as we find that Robert Jones had to pay him on March 19th of that year over fifteen hundred pounds of tobacco.¹ Palmer, in his Introduction (p. xvi.) to Vol. I. Calendar Papers, has given us the following description of the General Court of Virginia, and with it the origin of the Virginian title of Colonel.

"This august and aristocratic body was always composed of the class known at that time as 'gentlemen,' men of wealth, family and influence, and whose official station added much to their influence. They, with the Governor, formed the executive council, who dispensed the entire patronage of the colony in the way of official appointment, at the same time that each individual himself was himself commissioned 'Colonel' by royal authority" . . . "The Gover-

1. Hayden Va. Gen., p. 51, from Northumberland Co. Va. records.

IN VIRGINIA.

nor was Lieutenant-General, the Councillors, Lieutenants of Counties with the title of Colonel, and in counties where a Councillor resided, some other person was appointed with rank of Major '' (p. 354).

Hayden,¹ in the light of this information, concludes that Colonel Ball may have been a Colonel of Foot or Horse and not County Lieutenant. With this assertion Stanard agrees and believes that Ball, if not County Lieutenant, was doubtless Presiding Magistrate and Colonel Commandant of the County. "I do not think he was County Lieutenant, his name does not occur as a member of the General Court."²

From 1675-7 Colonel Ball served on various committees in Lancaster County. March 28th, 1675-6 he and Lieutenant-Colonel John Carter were empowered by the General Assembly of Virginia to mobilise men and horses in defence of the colony against Indian depredations, to be lead by Nathaniel Bacon.³ He was presiding member of various courts held in Lancaster County, and received this honour for being the only resident Colonel in that county.

August 14th, 1677, Colonel Ball and his neighbour John Washington were present at a meeting to impress upon the citizens the necessity of making immediate payment of a tax imposed upon the people by the General Assembly to put down Bacon's rebellion which had lately arisen.⁴ From 1670 on until his death in 1680 he was a member of the Burgesses of Lancaster County.⁵

1. Va. Gen., p. 52.

2. Ibid.

3. Hening, W. W., Statutes of Va., Vol. II, p. 329.

4. Wm. and Mary Col. Quart, Vol. II, p. 48.

5. Ibid, Vol. IV, p. 48.

COLONEL WILLIAM BALL

Colonel Ball was an earnest and devout churchman, and was a zealous supporter of the Virginian branch of the Church of England; he was at various times a member of committees appointed for arranging the government for its support.¹ He and John Washington were wardens of Christ Church, Lancaster County.

At the time of his death, Colonel Ball owned nearly two thousand acres of land in Lancaster and Rappahannock Counties. Of this, "Millenbeck" comprised five hundred and forty acres. He died at "Millenbeck" November, 1680. His will is dated October 15th, 1680, and probated November, 1680. Hayden reproduces the will in full.² Colonel Ball willed his favourite estate to his eldest son, William, after making ample provision for his wife, his other son, Joseph, and daughter, Hannah, both of whom he saw successfully married. Mrs. Hannah Ball, his widow, continued to live at Millenbeck with her elder son until her death in 1695. Her will is on record in Lancaster County and is dated June 25th, 1695.

1. Wright, W. B., Ball Family records, p. 175.

2. Hayden, Va. Gen., p. 50.

III. THE DESCENDANTS OF COLONEL BALL.

Children born in England :—

1. Richard—died in infancy.
2. William b. Jan. 2nd, 1641; d. Sept. 30th, 1694, m. (i) — Williamson (?); (ii) — Harris; (iii) 1675, Margaret Downman.
3. Joseph b. May 25th, 1649; d. June, 1711; m. (i) 1675, Elizabeth Romney; (ii) Mrs. Mary Johnson.
4. Hannah b. March 12th, 1650; m. July 22nd, 1670, Captain David Fox.

William, the second son, inherited Millenbeck, where he continued to live. Hayden is of the opinion that he first married a daughter of James Williamson, of Rappahannock County. Her name appears to be either Margaret or Mary. Other members of the Ball family insisted that he married a Miss Harris, but she was likely to have been a second wife as Hayden believes. Both wives died prior to 1675, when he married Margaret Downman. Captain William Ball took an active part in the public affairs of Virginia. In 1687 he was appointed to lay off the boundary between Lancaster and Northumberland Counties. He was a Justice in 1680 and at various times from 1682 to 1688 he was a Burgess from Lancaster County.¹ He died in 1694.

Joseph Ball, the second son of William Ball, and the grandfather of Washington, was born in England May 24th, 1649, and was about one year old when he came to Virginia. He spent most of

1. Wm. and Mary Col. Quart. Vol. 5, p. 260.

III. THE DECEASED COLONIALS

1. The first group in England —

1. The first group in England —
2. The second group in England —
3. The third group in England —
4. The fourth group in England —
5. The fifth group in England —
6. The sixth group in England —
7. The seventh group in England —
8. The eighth group in England —
9. The ninth group in England —
10. The tenth group in England —

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COLONEL WILLIAM BALL

his boyhood days at Millenbeck, but made frequent trips back to London with his father, who came hither for business purposes. He probably received the greater part of his education in London, and was married about 1675 in England. It has long been a question as to whether his wife's name was Elizabeth Rogers or Romney. Numerous charts give the name Rogers, but a tradition of long standing gives the name as Romney, and that Elizabeth was the descendant of William Romney, Alderman and one time Sheriff¹ of London. The name is still preserved among the descendants of Joseph Ball.

It seems quite probable that Joseph handled much of the tobacco which his father and his elder brother, William, raised at Millenbeck, while he was in London, and took over much of the business formerly done by his father. He remained in England until his wife's death which occurred about 1700. As in the case of his first wife, there has been a great deal of discussion as to the antecedents of his second wife. That he met her in London about 1703 and that they were married there seems more than likely, although there are other indications that they were married in Lancaster County. She was a widow by the name of Mrs. Mary Johnson. It appears that a report reached the children of Joseph Ball that she was a woman of plebeian family, and at first they were greatly angered at their father for marrying beneath his station.²

1. Hayden in his Va. Gen., p. 50, gives Romney as Lord Mayor of London. An inspection of the records in Guildhall, however, show that he was Sheriff during 1603. He is descended through his mother from Hugh de Hatton of the ancient Cheshire family founded by Ivor, a knight under William the Conqueror.

2. Hayden, H. E., Va. Gen., p. 57.

DESCENDANTS.

Evidence was produced, however, to show that she was really a descendant of the ducal house of Montague, of high renown in England. Should this be so, then Washington is descended from Drago de Montacuto, who accompanied William of Normandy to England, where he became the founder of the illustrious Montague family. Ever since Washington's death, the question has been rediscussed at various intervals. The Montagues of America have long spoken of themselves as related to Washington through his grandmother, and it is a well-known fact that Washington himself used the Montague Crest for his seals. -Only one child was born of this second union of Joseph Ball—a daughter, Mary, in 1707-8. She is reported to have been a very beautiful girl and has won for all time the much-coveted title, "belle of the Northern Neck." She was twenty-three years old when on March 6th, 1730-1 she married Augustine, the son of Lawrence Washington, the neighbour, friend and colleague of Colonel William Ball.

After his second marriage, Joseph returned to his estate, "Epping Forest," and became a man of prominence in his county and parish. He was made a vestryman of his church, and won the title of Lieutenant-Colonel. He is said to have been a man of great piety and grave dignity.

Upon his return to Virginia in 1704, he received a grant of land near the estate which he had inherited from his father.

This land he erected into an estate called "Epping Forest," after the famous piece of woodland to the north of London. It was situ-

COLONEL WILLIAM BALL

ated in the upper part of Lancaster County. Nothing is now left of the old mansion where Mary, the mother of Washington, was born, and where she spent her girlhood days, but a massive heap of stone, brick and mortar. The mansion was burned over one hundred years ago, and the estate is now part of Oakley, the seat of the Lancaster Chinns, who are descendants of Joseph Ball.¹

Colonel Ball and his two wives now rest in the family vault built near the mansion; the markers are now moss-grown and the winds and rains of Virginia have for nearly two hundred years beat against the slabs that even the very inscriptions have well nigh disappeared.

Hannah, the daughter and youngest child of Colonel William Ball, was but a few months old when she crossed the ocean. At the age of twenty she married on July 22nd, 1670, Captain David Fox, a neighbour of her father who had an adjoining estate on the Rappahannock.

Grandchildren of Colonel William Ball.

Children of William Ball by his second marriage.

1. (1) William b. cir. 1676; m. Hannah Beale.
2. (2) Richard b. cir. 1676; m. Sarah Young.
3. (3) James b. cir. 1678; m. (i) Elizabeth Howson; (ii) Mary Dangerfield; (iii) Mary Anne Ballandine.
4. (4) Joseph b. cir. 1680; m. Mary Spencer.
5. (5) George b. cir. 1683; m. Grace Waddy.
6. (6) Samuel b. Sept. 26th, 1686; m. Ann Taylor.

1. Wright, W. B., Ball Family Records, p. 182.

DESCENDANTS.

7. (7) David b. Sept. 26th, 1686; m. (i) ———;
(ii) Ellen Heale.
8. (8) Stretchley, died while quite young.
9. (9) Margaret, date of birth unknown; m.
Rawleigh Downman.

Children of Joseph Ball and Elizabeth Romney Ball.

10. (1) Hannah b. cir. 1683; m. Raleigh Travers.
11. (2) Elizabeth b. cir. 1685; m. The Rev. John Carnegie.
12. (3) Esther b. 1685; m. Raleigh Chinn.
13. (4) Anne b. 1686; m. Colonel Edwin Conway.
14. (5) Joseph b. March 11th, 1689; m. Frances Ravenscroft.

✓ Children of Joseph Ball and Mary Johnson Ball.

- ✓ 15. (6) Mary b. 1707-8¹; d. Aug. 25th, 1789;
m. March 6th, 1730-1, Augustine Washington.

Children of Hannah Ball Fox.

16. (1) Hannah b. July 25th, 1671; m. Rodham Kenner.
17. (2) David b. 1672; died in 1679.
18. (3) William b. about 1673; m. Ann Chinn.
19. (4) Samuel b. Feb. 28th, 1674; Wife unknown.

1. Hayden, H. E., Va. Gen., p. 58.

COLONEL WILLIAM BALL

Great-grandchildren of Colonel Wm. Ball.

Children of William Ball and Hannah Beale Ball.

1. (1) William b. cir. 1700; m. Margaret Ball.
2. (2) George b. cir. 1702; m. Judith Payne.
3. (3) Sarah b. cir. 1705; m. (i) Dennis McCarty; (ii) Abram Barnes.
4. (4) Judith b. cir. 1706; m. George Glasscock.
5. (5) Ellen b. cir. 1710; m. (i) Richard Chichester; (ii) Wm. Downman.
6. (6) Hannah b. cir. 1715; m. Robert Mitchell.

Children of Capt. Richard Ball and Sarah Young Ball.

7. (1) Sarah b. cir. 1700; m. John Seldon.
8. (2) Margaret b. cir. 1702; m. Captain William Ball, Jr. (1st cousin).
9. (3) Hannah b. cir. 1705; m. William Montague.
10. (4) Esther b. cir. 1706; m. Capt. Wm. Glasscock.

Children of Major James Ball and Elizabeth Howson.

11. (1) Anne b. 1700; m. ——— Downman.
12. (2) Elizabeth b. 1701-2; m. William Keene.
13. (3) Eliza b. 1702-3; died in infancy.

Children of Major James Ball and Mary Dangerfield Ball.

14. (4) Mary b. 1707-8; died in infancy.
15. (5) Frances b. 1709; m. ——— Ball.

DESCENDANTS.

- 16. (6) Sarah b. Jan. 1711-12; m. Charles Ewell.
- 17. (7) Eve b. Dec. 24th, 1713; m. (i) Thomas Taylor; (ii) Solomon Ewell.
- 18. (8) Jesse b. 1716; m. Frances Burgess.
- 19. (9) James b. 1718; m. (i) —; (ii) —; (iii) Lettice Lee.
- 20. (10) Mary b. 1721; m. Colonel Richard Seldon.
- 21. (11) Edwin b. 1722-3;
- 22. (12) Jeduthun b. 1725; m. Elizabeth Burgess.
- 23. (13) Sinah b. 1727-8; m. Colonel Daniel McCarty.
- 24. (14) — — — — —

Children of Captain Joseph Ball and Mary Spencer Ball.

- 25. (1) Spencer b. cir. 1710; m.-Mathrom.
- 26. (2) Richard b. cir. 1712; died in 1735.
- 27. (3) Sarah b. cir. 1715; m. William Harding.
- 28. (4) Joseph b. cir. 1716; died 1735.
- 29. (5) William b. cir. 1720; m. Hannah Kenner.

Children of Captain George Ball and Grace Waddy Ball.

- 30. (1) John b. cir. 1710; m. Margaret Ball.
- 31. (2) David b. cir. 1712; died without issue.
- 32. (3) George b. cir. 1712; m. Ann Taylor.
- 33. (4) Joseph b. cir. 1715; m. Hannah —.
- 34. (5) Richard b. cir. 1716;

COLONEL WILLIAM BALL.

- 35. (6) Sarah — ; m. — Dameron.
- 36. (7) Harris Downman.
- 37. (8) Grace b. 1716-17; m. (i) — Burns;
(ii) Travers Downman.

Children of Margaret Ball Downman and Rawleigh Downman.

- 38. (1) William b. 1717; m. Ellen (Ball) Chichester.
- 39. (2) Rawleigh b. 1719-20; m. Frances Ball.
- 40. (3) Charles.
- 41. (4) Christopher.
- 42. (5) Elisha.

Children of Esther Ball Chinn and Rawleigh Chinn.

- 43. (1) Joseph b. cir. 1705; m. Elizabeth Ball.
- 44. (2) Rawleigh b. cir. 1706; m. Elizabeth —.
- 45. (3) Chichester b. cir. 1708; m. Agatha Thornton.
- 46. (4) Thomas b. cir. 1710; m. Mrs. Robert Edmonds.
- 47. (5) John (?).
- 48. (6) — name unknown.¹
- 49. (7) Ann; m. Martin Shearman.

Children of Ann Ball Conway and Colonel Edwin Conway.

- 50. (1) Ann b. cir. 1700; m. Robert Edmonds.
- 51. (2) Elizabeth b. cir. 1702; m. May 5th, 1724, Christopher Garlington; their daughter Elizabeth m. Peter Spencer Hack.

1. Hayden, Va. Gen., p. 75.

DESCENDANTS.

- 52. (3) Agatha b. cir. 1710; m. Cuthbert Spann.
- 53. (4) Peter b. cir. 1712; m. (i) Elizabeth Spann; (ii) Betty Lee.
- 54. (5) George — ; m. Anne Heath.
- 55. (6) Hannah b. cir. 1724; m. Tunstall Hack.

Children of Joseph Ball and Frances Ravenscroft Ball.

- 56. (1) Charles b. 1717.
- 57. (2) Hetty Betty b. 1719.
- 58. (3) Frances b. 1720; m. Rawleigh Downman.

Children Mary Ball Washington and Augustine Washington.

- 59. (1) George "born ye 11th Day of February 1731-2 about 10 in the morning and was Baptised the 5th of April following."¹ Feb. 11 o.s.; 22 n.s. 1732. Married January 6th, 1759, to Martha Dandridge, daughter of John Dandridge of N.K. Co. and widow of Colonel Daniel Parke Custis.
- 60. (2) Betty b. June 20th, 1733; m. Colonel Fielding Lewis.
- 61. (3) Samuel b. Nov. 16th, 1734; m. (i) Jane Champe; (ii) Mildred Thornton; (iii) Lucy Chapman.
- 62. (4) John Augustine b. Jan. 13th, 1736; m. Hannah Bushrod.

1. Hayden, Va. Gen., p. 81.

COLONEL WILLIAM BAILL

63. (5) Charles b. May 2nd, 1738; m. Mildred Thornton.
64. (6) Mildred b. June 21st, 1739; d. Oct. 23rd, 1740.

Children of Hannah Ball Fox and Rodham Kenner.

65. (1) Richard b. cir. 1700; m. Eliz. ———.
66. (2) Rodham b. cir. 1702; m. Susanna Opie.
67. (3) Hannah b. cir. 1710; m. William Ball.¹

¹ For a continuation of the descent from Colonel William Ball see Hayden's Va. Gen., pp. 47-144, 234, 243, and George N. Mackenzie's "Colonial Families of the United States of America," Baltimore, Md. 1911, Vol. II, pp. 36-49. Hayden has much interesting information not to be found elsewhere.

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